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New Literature

The most important books listed in these columns will receive notice in the book-review pages.

OLD TESTAMENT

BOOKS

SMITH, W. W. *The Student's Illustrated Historical Geography of the Holy Land.* Philadelphia: Sunday School Times Co., 1912. 75 cents.

This little book is chiefly pictorial and graphic, having, as the title-page informs us, "one hundred halftone pictures of Bible places and thirty-five maps, many of them in colors." It is intended for use in the Sunday school as a course adapted to the "History and Geography Ages." It makes no pretense at original scholarship in biblical geography, but relies upon the labors of others in this field. Unfortunately, the author has not always known whom to trust that he might not be led astray. As a piece of pedagogy, it has some merits. The abundance of photographs and maps commends it. But the book fails to make the places and scenes it represents and describes vivid to the student's mind. It is little more than a catalogue of names and facts. Human interest is lacking.

BEECHER, W. J. *Reasonable Biblical Criticism.* Philadelphia: Sunday School Times Co., 1912. Pp. 335. \$1.50.

This volume is an attempt so to set forth "orthodox ideas concerning the Bible" that "they shall appeal to the thinking of the present generation." This is a laudable ambition and a great undertaking. But the task is in the very nature of the case impossible. Men can never go back to the old way of viewing the Bible, whatever may become of the views that are now dominant. Prof. Beecher has done his work in an irenical spirit and as well, probably, as it could possibly be done.

BEET, J. AGAR. *The Old Testament—Its Contents, Truth and Worth.* London: C. H. Kelly, 1912. Pp. 206. 2s.

A handy introduction dealing with the following topics: (1) Christ and the Old Testament; (2) The Sources and Contents of the Old Testament; (3) Origin and Date of the Law; (4) The History; (5) The Prophets: Isaiah, Jeremiah, Ezekiel; (6) The Twelve Lesser Prophets; (7) The Holy Writings; (8) The Historical Truth of the Old Testament; (9) The Religious and Moral Teaching of the Old Testament; (10) The Old Testament and Modern Science; (11) The Abiding Worth of the Old Testament; (12) The Inspiration and Authority of the Old Testament; (13) The Apocrypha. Dr. Beet identifies himself with modern biblical students, and his work will prove useful to very many people. But he does not exhibit a genuinely historical appreciation of the rise and character of the Old Testament.

ARTICLES

BURNEY, C. F. "The Priestly Code and the New Aramaic Papyri from Elephantine." *The Expositor*, February, 1912, pp. 97-108.

A successful exposition of the fact that Professor Sayce in an earlier number of *The Expositor* had in the discussion of this subject failed to represent correctly the views of modern critics regarding the origin of the Priestly Code. Professor Sayce had represented the critics as saying what they do not say and had then proceeded to convict them of error on the basis of the testimony of the new papyri.

DRIVER, S. R. "The Book of Judges." *Ibid.*, pp. 120-36.

A continuation of a series on Judges. This article concludes a study of the records regarding Deborah and Barak.

GREEN, W. C. "On a Neglected Aspect of the Third Commandment." *Ibid.*, pp. 186-92.

An exegesis of the law as directed against deliberate lying.

NEW TESTAMENT

BOOKS

BATIFFOL, PIERRE. *The Credibility of the Gospel: "Orpheus" et L'Evangile.* Translated by G. C. H. Pollen. New York: Longmans, Green & Co., 1912.

These eight lectures, delivered before a Catholic audience at Versailles in the early part of 1910, were called forth by Salomon Reinach's "Orpheus," which had made a considerable impression in France. With much acquaintance with critical method and results, Batiffol combines a controlling ecclesiastical bias, which seriously reduces the value of his work.

CROSCUP, GEORGE E. *Historical Charts of the Life and Ministry of Christ, with an Outline Harmony of the Gospels.* With an Introduction by Matthew B. Riddle. Philadelphia: Sunday School Times Co., 1912. Pp. 40. \$1.00.

These charts and summaries are mainly based, the author states, on Andrews' *Life of Our Lord*. They assume the chronological character of the Fourth Gospel, with its various visits to Jerusalem, and represent in general the traditional view of Jesus' ministry.

ZORELL, FRANCISCO. *Novi Testamenti Lexicon Graecum, fasciculus 4, προσβύτης-ὠφελιμος.* Pp. 481-646. (Cursus Scripturae Sacrae.) Paris: Lethielleux, 1911.

This part concludes Zorell's new Greek lexicon of the New Testament, which has followed almost within a year Preuschen's excellent work. Zorell includes the readings of Tischendorf and Westcott-Hort, and marks a new era in his free inclusion of illustrations from the Greek papyri.

RELATED SUBJECTS

BOOKS

HODGES, GEORGE. *Saints and Heroes to the End of the Middle Ages.* With illustrations. New York: Henry Holt, 1911. Pp. 268. \$1.35.

Twenty delightfully readable sketches, for young people, of fathers and leaders of the church, such as Cyprian, Jerome, Benedict, Columba, Hildebrand, Anselm, Dominic, Francis, Hus, and Savonarola. The sketches are informally and most entertainingly written; and the illustrations are well selected.